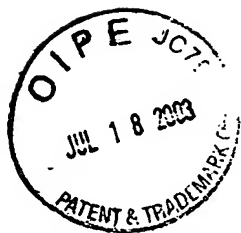


EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO.: EV 302233054 US

PATENT APPLICATION

Docket No: 15913.23



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Bing Zhou et al.

Serial No.: 10/066,289

Filed: January 31, 2002

Confirmation No.: 2043

For: Supported Noble Metal Nanometer Catalyst
Particles Containing Controlled (111) Crystal
Face Exposure

Examiner: Cam N. Nguyen

RECEIVED

JUL 23 2003

GROUP 1700

#5/WB
8/5/3

) Art Unit
) 1754

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is in response to the Restriction Requirement dated July 9, 2003,
regarding the above-identified Patent Application.

The Restriction Requirement requires restriction to one of the following inventions:

Group I: Claims 1-21, drawn to a noble metal catalyst

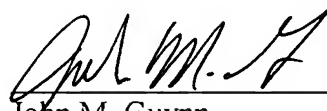
Group II: Claim 22, drawn to a method of reforming petroleum naphtha using the noble
metal catalyst.

In response, Applicants elect Group I, comprising claims 1-21, without traverse. Accordingly, claims 1-21 are presented to the Examiner for examination on the merits, while claim 22 is withdrawn at this time as being directed to a non-elected invention. Nevertheless, upon the allowance of claims 1-21, Applicants respectfully request rejoinder and allowance of claim 22 since, if the noble catalyst is itself patentable, any use of the inventive noble metal catalyst would *a fortiori* be patentable as well.

If the Examiner has any questions or comments concerning this communication, the Examiner is respectfully requested to initiate a telephonic interview with the undersigned attorney.

Dated this 18th day of July 2003.

Respectfully submitted,



John M. Guynn
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 36, 153



022913

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Bing Zhou et al.

Serial No.: 10/066,289

Filed: January 31, 2002

Confirmation No.: 2043

For: Supported Noble Metal Nanometer Catalyst
Particles Containing Controlled (111) Crystal
Face Exposure

Examiner: Cam N. Nguyen

)
)
)
)
) Art Unit
) 1754

RECEIVED

JUL 23 2003

GROUP 1700

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"

I hereby certify that following documents are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated below in an envelope addressed to: Director of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date of deposit: July 18, 2003.

- Response to Restriction Requirement
- Transmittal Letter (in duplicate)
- Postcard

Respectfully submitted,


John M. Guynn

Attorney for Applicant(s)
Registration No. 36,153



022913

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

JMG:mla

W:\15913\23\MLA0000000392V001.DOC